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Case Name/No.: YEN 3

Title of Invention: SYSTEMS AND METHODS FOR PHASE MULTIPLEXING IN
ASSIGNING FREQUENCY CHANNELS FOR A WIRELESS COMMUNICATION
NETWORK

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Sir:

Enclosed are the following papers relating to the above-named application for patent:

- ☒ Specification: 23 total pages (including Claims and Abstract)
- ☒ 12 Formal sheets of drawing(s)
- ☒ Assignment with Cover Sheet
- ☒ Declaration and Power of Attorney (4 pages)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement (citations)
- ☒ Return Receipt Postcard

CLAIMS	(1) FOR	(2) NUMBER FILED	(3) NUMBER EXTRA	(4) RATE	(5) CALCULATIONS
	TOTAL CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(c))	22 - 20* =	2	x \$ 18 =	\$ 36.00
	INDEPENDENT CLAIMS (37 CFR 1.16(b))	8 - 3** =	5	x \$ 78 =	390.00
	MULTIPLE DEPENDENT CLAIMS (if applicable)(37 CFR 1.16(d))			+ \$260 =	
	BASIC FEE (37 C.F.R. 1.16)				760.00
	Total of above Calculations =				\$1,186.00
	* Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent.				
	**Reissue independent claims over original patent.				
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Please file the application and charge Lucent Technologies Deposit Account No. 12-2325 the amount of \$1,186.00 to cover the filing fee. Duplicate copies of this letter are enclosed. In the event of non-payment or improper payment of a required fee, the



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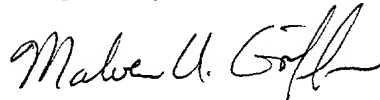
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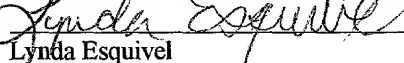
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Lynda Esquivel

5 **Systems and Methods for Phase Multiplexing in Assigning Frequency Channels for
a Wireless Communication Network**

Field of the Invention

10 The present invention generally relates to wireless communication networks, and more
particularly to increasing the capacity of wireless communication networks.

Background of the Invention

15 In recent years, the popularity and growth of wireless communication networks has
increased in dramatic fashion. In fact, wireless networks are continually pressed to keep up with
the demands for increased capacity while maintaining reliable and acceptable service. Steps are
continuously being taken to increase capacity in existing networks, but the demand for more
capacity remains because of the tremendous growth in wireless communications.

20 Traditional wireless communication networks are partitioned into service areas known as
cells wherein mobile units within a cell communicate via radio links with a base station that
services that cell. The base station is coupled to the public switch telephone network for access to
the land network. A pool of available frequency channels is assigned to each cell in such a way
that the same frequency channels can be reused in other cells that are sufficiently separated by
enough distance to prevent unacceptable co-channel interference. These frequency channel re-use
patterns can be implemented with assumptions that include equal-sized, regularly spaced cells with
25 uniformly distributed traffic loads. The re-use patterns can also be adjusted to increase capacity
based on real world considerations such as usage patterns and topography to increase capacity.
The design and operation of a typical wireless communication network is described in an article
titled "Advanced Mobile Phone Service" by Belcher, IEEE Transactions on Vehicular
Technology, Vol. VT29, No. 2, May 1980, pp.238-244.

30 Attempts at further increasing capacity for digital wireless networks have included using a

Code Division Multiple Access (CDMA) architecture based on the IS-95 digital wireless standard. IS-95 refers to the standard set by the Electronics Industries Association (EIA) and the Telecommunications Industries Association (TIA) for the implementation of a CDMA architecture. In CDMA systems, a unique code is allocated to each mobile unit and all calls are communicated simultaneously over a broad band of frequency, *i.e.*, 1.25 MHz for IS-95, thus spreading the energy of the calls over a large bandwidth. The calls are decoded by using the knowledge of the unique code of a mobile unit to retrieve a particular call.

Further attempts to increase capacity for wireless communication networks have been implemented by using a Time Division Multiple Access (TDMA) architecture. TDMA is an implementation that allows multiple calls to use a shared frequency channel by using different time slots. Standards have been set by the Electronics Industries Association (EIA) and the Telecommunications Industries Association (TIA) for the implementation of a TDMA architecture following EIA/TIA documents IS-54/IS-136. The European digital wireless network, referred to as Global System for Mobile Communications (GSM), also uses a TDMA architecture. The frequency channel is divided into timeslots with each mobile unit being assigned at least one timeslot during which it can communicate with the base station. For IS-54/IS-136, each frequency channel is allocated 30 kHz of bandwidth which is divided into six timeslots. For full rate operation, each mobile unit is assigned two of the six timeslots of the frequency channel. For half rate operation, each mobile unit is assigned only one timeslot.

A technique to increase capacity over traditional TDMA is called Enhanced Time Division Multiple Access (E-TDMA) which dynamically allocates timeslots to mobile units thereby taking advantage of the dead space that results from one-way alternating conversations and the redundant nature of human speech. Accordingly, mobile units are not assigned permanent timeslots for the call duration but receive timeslots for communicating only when needed. However, E-TDMA is complex in design, and therefore, difficult if not impractical to implement. The cost of an E-TDMA system is yet another impediment to its acceptance.

The growth of existing wireless communication networks is threatened by the capacity restraints of the networks. The use of more cells is costly because of the additional base stations needed and the problems of securing additional base station sites. Also, many existing wireless

communication providers are already heavily invested in equipment for specific architectures so converting to another architecture is not a commercially viable option. Therefore, it would be desirable to be able to further increase capacity efficiently, economically, and without degrading service of existing wireless communication networks. It is also desirable to give new wireless communication providers a broader array of choices when equipment and capacity concerns are addressed.

Summary of the Invention

The present invention provides for modulation control devices and methods that can be implemented economically in existing and new wireless communication networks to increase capacity. A modulation control device in accordance with the present invention evaluates the transmission quality of a frequency channel and if acceptable, the modulation control device phase divides the frequency channel. For example, a modulation control device in accordance with the present invention allows for possibly more than one call to simultaneously utilize the same frequency channel for AMPS networks or the same frequency during the same timeslot for TDMA networks via phase modulation.

The modulation control device assigns phase adjustment values to a call preferably which remain independent of the information encoding modulation techniques utilized. A call then can be modulated by the assigned phase adjustment value during transmission, and the call may be identified by the assigned phase adjustment value during reception. The present invention further provides methodologies for modulating calls by varying phase to increase capacity in wireless communication networks.

In accordance with an aspect of the present invention, a system for assigning a call to one of a plurality of wireless frequency channels in a wireless communication network comprises a wireless transceiver and a modulation control device that identifies a frequency channel for the call to utilize. The modulation control device then transfers at least one assignment modulation parameter, at least including phase, to the transceiver for assigning the call to the frequency channel. When the modulation control device transfers modulation parameters including frequency channel and phase to the transceiver, then the wireless communication network can

include advanced mobile phone system (AMPS) wireless networks. When the modulation control device transfers modulation parameters including timeslot and frequency as well as phase to the transceiver, then the wireless communication networks can include time division multiple access (TDMA) wireless networks including personal communications system (PCS) networks or global
5 system for mobile communications (GSM) networks.

A modulation control device in accordance with the present invention can include a threshold detector that measures a transmission quality of frequency channels and a modulation control mechanism that selects available frequency channels based on the transmission quality measurements. The threshold detector may be configured to measure transmission quality of a
10 frequency channel during the different timeslots. The modulation control mechanism may also include logic to select phase adjustment values or to retain predetermined phase adjustment values. The modulation control mechanism may include logic that can select the phase adjustment values so as to maximize the phase separation between calls on the frequency channel. Additionally, the modulation control mechanism may include logic that selects phase adjustment
15 values that provide a unique resultant phase value for the calls.

The present invention also provides for mobile units capable of receiving calls that have been transmitted using phase adjustment values. These mobile units may each include a mobile modulation control device that uses a phase adjustment value received from the base station to receive calls from the base station and to transmit calls to the base station.

The present invention also calls for and can be conceptualized as methods for use in a wireless communication network for assigning calls to frequency channels. In one embodiment of this methodology a step of assigning a frequency channel and a phase adjustment value to a call is included. The phase adjustment value is then communicated to the mobile unit that is associated with the call so that the mobile unit can use the phase adjustment value for transmitting the call
20 and reference the phase adjustment value for receiving the call. A variation of this methodology includes the step of measuring the transmission quality of the frequency channels individually before a frequency channel is assigned to a call. If the transmission quality of a frequency channel exceeds a predetermined value, then the call can be assigned to that frequency channel as above.

The present invention also calls for and can be conceptualized as methods for allocating

calls in a wireless communication network that uses TDMA technology. For example, a transmission quality of the frequency channels can be individually measured during each timeslot. If the transmission quality of a frequency channel during a timeslot exceeds a predetermined value, then the call can be assigned to the frequency channel for that timeslot and assigned a phase adjustment value in accordance with an embodiment of the invention. This phase adjustment value is communicated to the mobile unit that is associated with the call. Likewise, the base station associates the phase adjustment value with the call so that the phase adjustment value can be used for transmitting the call to the mobile unit and referenced for receiving the call from the mobile unit.

The present invention also calls for and can be conceptualized as methods for use by a mobile unit for receiving calls which are transmitted with a phase adjustment value. This method includes the steps of receiving a phase adjustment value from the base station that identifies, at least in part, a call and demodulating the call through utilizing the phase adjustment value. This method may also include the step of filtering out noise if necessary. The present invention also calls for and can be conceptualized as methods for use by a mobile unit to transmit calls which have been assigned a phase adjustment value. This method includes the steps of the mobile unit receiving a phase adjustment value from the base station for a call, and the mobile unit using the phase adjustment value for transmitting the call to the base station.

Other features and advantages of the present invention will become apparent to one with skill in the art upon examination of the following drawings and detailed description. It is intended that all such additional features and advantages be included herein in the scope of the present invention, as defined by the claims.

Brief Description of the Drawings

FIG. 1 is a block diagram of a wireless communication network suitable for employing an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 2A provides a dimensional representation of the operation of an Advanced Mobile Phone Service wireless communication network according to prior art;

FIG. 2B provides a dimensional representation of the operation of an Advanced Mobile

Phone Service wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 3 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a base station for an Advanced Mobile Phone Service wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 4 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a mobile unit for an Advanced Mobile Phone Service wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 5A provides a dimensional representation of the operation of a Time Division Multiple Access wireless communication network according to prior art;

FIG. 5B provides a dimensional representation of the operation of a Time Division Multiple Access wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a base station for a Time Division Multiple Access wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 6A is a functional diagram illustrating four level phase division for a frequency channel for a Time Division Multiple Access wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 7 is a schematic block diagram illustrating a mobile unit for a Time Division Multiple Access wireless communication network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. 8 is a flowchart of the operation of a wireless base station in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 9 is a flowchart of the operation of a wireless mobile unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention.

Description of Preferred Embodiments

The present invention will now be described more fully hereinafter with reference to the

accompanying drawings, in which preferred embodiments of the invention are shown. This invention may, however, be embodied in different forms and should not be construed as limited to the embodiments as set forth herein. Rather, these embodiments are provided so that this disclosure will be thorough and complete, and will fully convey the scope of the invention to those skilled in the art. The elements of the drawings are not necessarily to scale, emphasis instead being placed upon clearly illustrating the principles of the present invention. Furthermore, like reference numbers refer to like elements throughout. This description includes a general overview of wireless communication networks, a first preferred embodiment, which is suitable for an AMPS system, and a second preferred embodiment which is suitable for IS-54/IS-136 TDMA systems.

With reference now to the drawings, FIG. 1 shows a wireless communication network **12** suitable for employing the present invention. The wireless communication network **12** includes a plurality of cells **14** configured to cover a particular geographic area, as well known in the art. It should be understood that the shape and configuration of the cells **14** are merely exemplary of that which is commonly used in the industry, and does not constitute any part of the invention. The cells **14** in FIG. 1 are configured in a seven cell repeating pattern with each cell having one-seventh of the total number of channels of the wireless communication network **12**. In today's North America wireless network, there are typically 420 channels reused in each seven cell pattern. Accordingly, each cell **14** has sixty channels allotted to it. At each cell **14** is a base station **15** that provides a radio interface with a plurality of mobile units **16**. A carrier facility **17** interconnects each base station **15** to a mobile telecommunications switching office (MTSO) **18**. Each carrier facility **17** comprises a transmission media suited for transmitting a signal from each respective base station **15** to the MTSO **18**. The MTSO **18** interconnects the wireless portion of the wireless communication network **12** to the public switch telephone network (PSTN) **20**.

In addition, the MTSO **18** may include a base station controller **26** and a wireless switch **28** that are interconnected by a link **29**. The base station controller **26** essentially interfaces the wireless portion of the network **12** with the wireless switch **28**. The base station controller **26** performs the mobility management functions of the MTSO **18**, for instance, channel routing functions and handoff functions. Thus, the wireless switch **28** is kept insulated from changes in a call arising from the mobility of the customer or arising from bandwidth management (*i.e.*, hand-

offs initiated by the base station controller 26 for bandwidth utilization between cells). The wireless switch 28 interfaces with the PSTN 20 via a link 32 that may include links to a variety of long distance exchange carriers and/or a local exchange carrier, as is well known in the art.

In a preferred embodiment, the present invention modifies base stations 15 to increase the capacity of the wireless communication network 12. Note, however, that the present invention may be implemented at the base stations 15 located at the cells 14 or in the MTSO 18 or in the base station controller 26 or distributed between different elements of the wireless communication network 12.

I. Implementation of a Modulation Control Device According to the Present Invention for AMPS

Advanced Mobile Phone System (AMPS) is a well known way to implement a wireless communication network. AMPS provides multiple access by dividing a frequency block typically into 30 kHz frequency channels. Accordingly, multiple access in such a system is based upon the single dimension of frequency as illustrated in FIG. 2A. In accordance with the present invention, access to multiple users would be governed by two dimensions (frequency and phase) as illustrated by the two dimensional system 40 in FIG. 2B. This added dimension may allow for as many as P times more users than with mere frequency division, where P is the number of different phase adjustment values chosen to allocate the calls. While theoretically unlimited, the number of phase adjustment values possible is limited as a practical matter by the physical limits of the frequency channel (e.g., the noise of the frequency channel and the ability to recover the signals). A typical implementation might use four phase adjustment values.

AMPS uses frequency shift keying (FSK) for encoding information onto the carrier frequency. Therefore, the phase adjustment values can be chosen to maximize phase separation between the phase adjustment values without concerns over confusion that might result if the information was encoded by phase.

Now referring to FIG. 3, illustrated is a base station 200 in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention in which the base station 200 uses radio equipment 202 for interfacing with at least one mobile unit 204. The base station 200 further includes a modulation

control device **214** and a transceiver **216**. The modulation control device **214** is communicatively connected to the transceiver **216**.

The modulation control device **214** comprises a threshold detector **218** and a modulation control mechanism **220**. The threshold detector **218** is configured to measure the transmission quality (the signal quality and noise) of a plurality of frequency channels **222** and to deliver these measurements to the modulation control mechanism **220**.

This implementation begins with a first mobile unit **204** requesting initial service from the base station **200** for a call. The modulation control mechanism **220** compares the transmission quality measurements, taken by the threshold detector **218**, of a first frequency channel **222** with a predetermined threshold level. If the measured transmission quality of the first frequency channel **222** is greater than the predetermined threshold level, then the modulation control mechanism **220** assigns the first frequency channel **222** and a phase adjustment value to the call of the mobile unit **204**, and retains these assignment parameters (i.e., the phase adjustment value and the identity of the frequency channel to which the call was assigned). Otherwise, the modulation control mechanism **220** compares the transmission quality of a second frequency channel **222** with the predetermined threshold level. If the measured transmission quality of the second frequency channel **222** is greater than the predetermined threshold level, then the modulation control mechanism **220** assigns the second frequency channel **222** and a phase adjustment value to the call of the mobile unit **204** as shown above. If not, then the modulation control mechanism **220** will continue through the plurality of frequency channels **222** until the call can be assigned to a frequency channel **222** (i.e., until a frequency channel's quality measurement exceed the predetermined level). Once a last frequency channel **222** of the plurality of frequency channels **222** has been reached, the modulation control mechanism **220** returns to the first frequency channel **222** of the plurality of frequency channels **222** and increments the phase adjustment value to the next phase value. Once a last frequency channel **222** of the plurality of frequency channels **222** has been reached and the last phase adjustment value of a plurality of such values has been reached, the modulation control mechanism **220** returns to the first frequency channel **222** and resets the phase adjustment value to the initial phase value.

When any subsequent mobile unit **204** requests service from the base station **200** for a call,

the modulation control mechanism **220** identifies a frequency channel **222** and phase adjustment value for the call in substantially the same manner as described above except that the modulation control mechanism **220** begins with the phase adjustment value of the previous assigned call and with the next frequency channel **222** after the frequency channel **222** to which the previous call was assigned.

Once the frequency channel **222** and the phase adjustment value has been assigned to the call of the mobile unit **204**, then the frequency channel and phase adjustment value assigned may be communicated to the mobile unit **204** over the control channel, as is well known in the art.

When the base station **200** is transmitting to the first mobile unit **204**, the modulation control mechanism **220** may communicate with the transceiver **216**, wherein the transceiver **216** may include a plurality of modulators/demodulators **230**. The modulation control mechanism **220** can communicate the frequency channel **222** and phase adjustment value for the first mobile unit **204** for the call to the transceiver **216** so that at least one of the plurality of modulators/demodulators **230** can modulate the call based on these assignment parameters. Let $A(t)\cos(2\pi k(\text{frequency channel assigned}(t)) + \text{phase adjustment value})$ represent the waveform produced by at least one of the plurality of modulators/demodulators **230** where k represents the variable to control the information encoding for FSK. The waveform illustrates the phase division of an information carrying signal on a frequency channel. Note that for each additional phase adjustment value utilized an additional modulators/demodulators may be required for each frequency channel.

Alternatively, the modulation control device **214** may interact with the base station controller **26** to accomplish the phase adjustment value modulation so that the mobile unit **204** can identify the transmission. Yet another alternative is that the modulation control device **214** may communicate with a modulator/demodulator that is independent of the transceiver **216** to modulate the call with the associated phase adjustment value for the mobile unit **204**. Additional modulators/demodulators to modulate the call with the associated phase adjustment value can be added to existing base stations **200** to facilitate the implementation of this embodiment of the present invention.

When the base station **200** receives transmissions during a call from a mobile unit **204**, the

transceiver 216 may communicate with the modulation control mechanism 220 to allow identification of the mobile unit 204. For example, after the received transmission during a call is demodulated, the modulation control mechanism 220 may compare the phase of the signal with the assigned phase adjustment value to identify the mobile unit 204 that made the transmission.

FIG. 4 illustrates some of the elements of a mobile unit 260 for use in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The mobile unit 260 includes a demodulator 262, a filter 264, a modulator 270, and a mobile modulation control device 272. When the mobile unit 260 receives the assigned frequency channel 222 and phase adjustment value from the base station 200 for the call, these values are retained by the mobile modulation control device 272 for the duration of the call of the mobile unit 204. When the mobile unit 204 receives a transmission from the base station 200 the mobile modulation control device 272 communicates the assigned phase adjustment value to the demodulator 262. Therefore, the call can be demodulated using the phase adjustment value. The demodulator's 262 output may then be passed to the filter 264 to remove the noise and retrieve the desired transmission from the base station 200 for the call. When the mobile unit 204 wishes to transmit, the mobile modulation control device 272 may communicate the assigned phase adjustment value and frequency channel to the modulator 270. Accordingly, the mobile unit 260 transmits a signal with the assigned phase adjustment value which allows the base station 200 to identify which mobile unit 204 made the transmission and accordingly to which call the transmission belongs

II. Implementation of a Modulation Control Device According to the Present Invention for TDMA

A second preferred embodiment of the present invention is for use in TDMA systems. TDMA systems, wherein a frequency channel is divided into timeslots, include systems in the cellular frequency bands, GSM frequency bands, and PCS frequency bands. The IS-54/IS-136 standard which governs TDMA cellular systems divides a 30 kHz cellular channels into six timeslots. Accordingly, calls are assigned to a frequency channel for use during certain timeslots. This two dimensional multiple access system (timeslot and frequency channel) is illustrated by the two dimensional system 60 in FIG. 5A. In accordance with the present invention, access to

multiple users would be governed by three dimensions for TDMA (frequency, timeslot, and phase) as illustrated by the three dimensional system 70 in FIG. 5B. Accordingly, an embodiment of the present invention may require three dimensions to assign and identify a call in the network.

The IS-54/IS-136 standard which governs TDMA 800 MHz cellular systems and 1900 MHz PCS systems uses $\pi/4$ differential quaternary phase shift keying ($\pi/4$ -DQPSK), which is a modulation technique well known in the art, to encode information onto the carrier wave. This modulation technique, $\pi/4$ -DQPSK, encodes information by varying the phase of the carrier wave.

The present invention adjusts the phase to allow multiplexing of calls for transmission on the same frequency channel during the same timeslot. Accordingly, care should be taken in choosing the phase adjustment values to ensure that the aggregate of the information encoding phase and the phase adjustment value is unique. If the phase adjustment values are chosen poorly, then it would be possible that a call with an phase adjustment value of A and an information encoding phase of B would have the same aggregate phase as a call with an phase adjustment value of C and an information encoding phase of D when A+B equals C+D.

For $\pi/4$ -DQPSK modulation, the information is conveyed by referencing the previous phase and the current phase; the phase of the carrier wave should be $\pi/4$ or some multiple thereof. One possible way to choose the phase adjustment values so that the aggregate phase values are unique is by the use of prime numbers.

Note the following example for use with $\pi/4$ -DQPSK modulation. Let P represent the number of levels (different phase values chosen) of phase for assigning a call. As stated before, a typical implementation might use four levels (P=4). Let M represent the smallest prime number that is larger than P. The phase adjustment values can then be chosen with the aid of the following formula:

$$\text{phase adjustment value}_p = p \left(\frac{2\pi}{M} \right) \text{ where } p = 1 \text{ to } P.$$

Accordingly, the phase adjustment values for $\pi/4$ -DQPSK could be $2\pi/5$, $4\pi/5$, $6\pi/5$, and $8\pi/5$.

Now referring to FIG. 6, illustrated is one embodiment for implementing a base station 300 in accordance with the present invention. This embodiment comprises a base station 300 which includes radio equipment 302 for interfacing with at least one mobile unit 304.

The base station **300** further includes a modulation control device **314** and a transceiver **316** where the modulation control device **314** is communicatively connected to the transceiver **316**. The transceiver includes a plurality of time multiplexers **317** to implement timeslots.

The modulation control device **314** comprises a threshold detector **318** and a modulation control mechanism **320**. The threshold detector **318** is configured to measure the transmission quality (the signal quality and noise) of a plurality of frequency channels **322** during a plurality of timeslots and to deliver these measurements to the modulation control mechanism **320**.

This implementation begins with a first mobile unit **304** requesting initial service from the base station **300** for a call. The modulation control mechanism **320** compares the transmission quality measurements, taken by the threshold detector **318**, of a first frequency channel **322** during a first timeslot with a predetermined threshold level. If the measured transmission quality of the first frequency channel **322** during the first timeslot is greater than the predetermined threshold level, then the modulation control mechanism **320** assigns the frequency channel **322**, the timeslot, and a phase adjustment value to the call of the mobile unit **304**, and retains these assignment parameters (*i.e.*, the phase adjustment value and the identity of the frequency channel **322** and timeslot to which the call was assigned). Otherwise, the modulation control mechanism **320** compares the transmission quality of a second timeslot of the first frequency channel **322** with the predetermined threshold level. If the measured transmission quality of the second timeslot of the first frequency channel **322** is greater than the predetermined threshold level, then the modulation control mechanism **320** assigns the second timeslot of the first frequency channel **322** and a phase adjustment value to the call of the mobile unit **304** as shown above. If not, then the modulation control mechanism **320** will continue through the plurality of timeslots within the plurality of frequency channels **322** until the call can be assigned to a timeslot within a frequency channel **322** (*i.e.*, until a frequency channel's measurements during a timeslot exceed the predetermined level).

Once a last timeslot of the plurality of timeslots for the frequency channel **322** has been reached, the modulation control mechanism **320** will evaluate the first timeslot of the next frequency channel **322** of the plurality of frequency channels **322** and will continue through the plurality of timeslots and the plurality of frequency channels **322** until the call of the mobile unit

304 can be assigned to a timeslot and a frequency channel **322**.

Once a last timeslot of a plurality of timeslots in a last frequency channel **322** of the plurality of frequency channels **322** has been reached, the modulation control mechanism **320** returns to the first timeslot of the first frequency channel **322** of the plurality of frequency channels **322** and increments the phase adjustment value to the next value and continues searching for an available timeslot. Once a last timeslot of a plurality of timeslots in a last frequency channel **322** of the plurality of frequency channels **322** has been reached and the last phase adjustment value of a plurality of such values has been reached, the modulation control mechanism **320** returns to the first timeslot of the first frequency channel **322** and resets the phase adjustment value to the first phase adjustment value and then continues searching for an available timeslot within a frequency channel **322**.

When any subsequent mobile unit **304** requests service from the base station **300**, the modulation control mechanism **320** identifies a frequency channel, timeslot, and phase adjustment value in substantially the same manner as above except that the modulation control mechanism **320** begins with the phase adjustment value of the previous assigned call and with a next timeslot of the frequency channel **322** to which the previous call was assigned.

Once the timeslot, the frequency channel **322**, and the phase adjustment value has been assigned to the call of the mobile unit **304**, these timeslot, frequency channel **322**, and phase adjustment value parameters may be communicated to the mobile unit **304** over the control channel, as is well known in the art.

When the base station **300** is transmitting to the first mobile unit **304**, the modulation control mechanism **320** may communicate with the transceiver **316**, wherein the transceiver **316** may include a plurality of modulators/demodulators **330**. The modulation control mechanism **320** may communicate the timeslot, the frequency channel, and phase adjustment value for a call of the first mobile unit **304** to the transceiver **316** so that the transceiver's modulator/demodulator **330** may modulate the call based on the phase adjustment value

Let $A(t)\cos(2\pi(\text{frequency channel assigned}(t)) + \phi_i + \text{phase adjustment value})$ represent the waveform produced by at least one of the plurality of modulators/demodulators **330** where ϕ represents the variable to control the information encoding for $\pi/4$ -DQPSK and i represents the

timeslot for which the call was assigned to transmit and/or receive. The waveform illustrates the phase division of an information carrying signal on a frequency channel during a timeslot. Note that for each additional phase adjustment value utilized an additional modulators/demodulators may be required for each frequency channel.

5 As well known in the art, a traditional IS-54/IS-136 TDMA system uses a time multiplexer to create timeslots for a frequency channel thereby allowing for capacity for six calls. FIG. 6A illustrates the functional aspects of the phase division of a single frequency channel in a TDMA network in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention wherein four level phase division (*i.e.*, four distinct phase adjustment values; $P=4$) has been chosen. Four level phase
10 division may require additional time multiplexers **340** (illustrated is an additional time mutliplexer **340** for each phase adjustment value) to create timeslots for each phase adjustment value. As illustrated in this embodiment, a time multiplexer **340** and a modulator **345** are shown for each phase adjustment value assigned. This implementation allows for twenty-four calls to share a single frequency channel. Four calls, that are assigned different phase adjustment values, share
15 the same timeslot within this single frequency channel.

Alternatively, the modulation control device **314** may interact with the base station controller **26** to accomplish the phase adjustment value modulation so that the mobile unit **304** can identify the transmission (*i.e.*, the mobile unit **304** can retrieve the transmission by demodulating with the assigned phase adjustment value). Yet another alternative is that the
20 modulation control device **314** may communicate with a modulator/demodulator that is independent of the transceiver **316** to modulate the call with the phase adjustment value for the mobile unit **304**. Additional modulators/demodulators to modulate the call with the associated phase adjustment value and additional time multiplexers can be added to existing base stations **300** to facilitate the implementation of this embodiment of the present invention.

25 When the base station **300** receives a transmission during a call from a mobile unit **304**, the transceiver **316** may communicate with the modulation control mechanism **320** to allow identification of the mobile unit **304**. After the received transmission during the call is demodulated, the modulation control mechanism **320** may compare the phase of the transmission with the assigned phase adjustment values to identify the mobile unit **304** that made the

transmission.

FIG. 7 illustrates some of the elements of a mobile unit 360 for use in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The mobile unit 360 includes a demodulator 362, a filter 364, a timeslot detector/multiplexer 368 for isolating the assigned timeslot, a modulator 370, and a mobile modulation control device 372. When the mobile unit 360 receives the assigned frequency channel 322, timeslot, and phase adjustment value from the base station 300 for the call, these values are retained by the mobile modulation control device 372 for the duration of the call. When the mobile unit 360 receives a transmission from the base station 300 the mobile modulation control device 372 communicates the assigned phase adjustment value to the demodulator 362. Therefore, the transmission from the base station 300 can be demodulated using the assigned phase adjustment value. The demodulator's 362 output may then be passed to the filter 364 to remove the noise and retrieve the desired transmission from the base station 300 for the call. When the mobile unit 360 wishes to transmit, the mobile modulation control device 372 may communicate the assigned phase adjustment value, frequency channel 322, and timeslot to the modulator 370. Accordingly, the mobile unit 360 transmits with the assigned phase adjustment value which allows the base station 300 to identify which mobile unit 304 made the transmission and accordingly to which call the transmission belongs.

III. Operation of a Modulation Control Device According to the Present Invention

The operation of a wireless base station in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention is illustrated by FIG. 8. A base station in a wireless communication network begins the search for a frequency channel for a call when a mobile unit first requests service at block 400. The transmission quality of a first frequency channel is then measured by the threshold detector at block 410. The modulation control device then compares the transmission quality measurement of the frequency channel with a predetermined value at block 420. The decision block 425, if the transmission quality measurement of the frequency channel exceeds the predetermined value, then the modulation control device assigns the frequency channel and the phase adjustment value to the call, as indicated at block 430. However, as the decision block 425 illustrates, if the transmission quality measurement of the frequency channel does not exceed the predetermined value, then the

modulation control device compares the transmission quality measurement received from the threshold detector of the next frequency channel with a predetermined value at block 420.

After the call has been assigned a frequency channel and a phase adjustment value, as indicated at block 430, then the phase adjustment value is communicated to a mobile unit that is associated with the call at block 440. The modulation control device then associates the assigned phase adjustment value with the call so that the phase adjustment value can be added during modulation for communicating with the mobile unit or referenced by the base station during reception to attribute the call to a mobile unit at block 450.

Note that the operation of the modulation control device is similar for a TDMA network.

10 In a TDMA network, the modulation control device examines each timeslot within the plurality of frequency channels. The modulation control device examines a first timeslot within the first frequency channel and if the frequency channel for that timeslot is unacceptable, the modulation control device continues searching the rest of the timeslots within the first frequency channel until an acceptable transmission quality measurement is found. The modulation control device
15 continues to the first timeslot in a second frequency channel if no transmission quality measurement is found acceptable for any timeslot within the first frequency channel. The modulation control device will step through the timeslots in the second channel until the frequency channel has an acceptable transmission quality measurement for a timeslot. This searching continues through the plurality of timeslots in the plurality of frequency channels until a
20 timeslot within a frequency channel is found to be acceptable. The methodology for assigning and communicating the phase adjustment value is then followed as above.

The operation of a wireless mobile unit in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention is illustrated by FIG. 9. The operation of the mobile unit begins when the mobile unit requests service from the base station, as indicated at block 500. The mobile unit will then
25 receive the assigned phase adjustment value from the base station preferably over the control channel, as indicated at block 510. The mobile unit will then demodulate received transmissions and modulate the outgoing transmissions with the assigned phase adjustment value, as indicated at block 520. The mobile unit then may filter out unwanted noise as indicated in block 530.

In the drawings and specification, there have been disclosed typical preferred embodiments

of the invention and, although specific terms are employed, they are used in a generic and descriptive sense only and not for purposes of limitation, the scope of the invention being set forth in the following claims.

Claims

That which is claimed is:

1 1. A system for assigning a call to one of a plurality of wireless frequency channels in a
2 wireless communication network, comprising:
3 a wireless transceiver that assigns the call to one of the plurality of wireless frequency
4 channels; and
5 a modulation control device that identifies one of the plurality of wireless frequency
6 channels for the call and provides an assignment modulation parameter to the transceiver for
7 assigning the call to the frequency channel, wherein the assignment modulation parameter includes
8 a phase.

1 2. The system in claim 1, wherein the wireless communication network comprises an
2 advanced mobile phone system (AMPS) network.

1 3. The system in claim 1, wherein the modulation control device provides assignment
2 modulation parameters including timeslot and frequency to the transceiver.

1 4 The system in claim 3, wherein the wireless communication network comprises a time
2 division multiple access wireless network.

1 5. The system in claim 3, wherein the wireless communications network comprises a time
2 division multiple access personal communications system (PCS) network.

1 6. The system in claim 3, wherein the wireless communications network comprises a time
2 division multiple access global system for mobile communications (GSM) network.

1 7. A modulation control device for use in a wireless communication network to assign a
2 call to a next frequency channel selected from a plurality of frequency channels, comprising:

3 a threshold detector that measures a transmission quality of each frequency channel; and
4 a modulation control mechanism that selects the next available frequency channel based on
5 the frequency channel quality measurement of the threshold detector, and that selects a phase
6 adjustment value, whereby the call is assigned to the next available frequency channel at the
7 selected phase adjustment value.

1 8. The modulation control device of claim 7, wherein the modulation control mechanism
2 calculates the phase adjustment value to assign to the frequency channel.

1 9. The modulation control device of claim 7, wherein the modulation control mechanism
2 stores a plurality of phase adjustment values.

1 10. The modulation control device of claim 7, wherein the modulation control mechanism
2 selects the phase adjustment value that maximizes the phase separation between the calls on a
3 single frequency channel

1 11 The modulation control device of claim 7, wherein the modulation control mechanism
2 selects the phase adjustment value that provides a unique resultant phase value for the call on the
3 frequency channel.

1 12 A mobile unit for use in a wireless communication network with a plurality of
2 frequency channels, comprising:

3 a transceiver; and

4 a mobile modulation control device that receives a phase adjust value over the wireless
5 communication network, and provides the phase adjustment value to the transceiver for call
6 retrieval during demodulation and for modulation during transmission.

1 13. A method for use in a wireless communication network with a plurality of frequency
2 channels for assigning a call to one of the frequency channels, comprising:

3 assigning a frequency channel and a phase adjustment value to the call;
4 communicating the phase adjustment value to a mobile unit that is associated with the call;
5 and
6 associating the phase adjustment value with the call so that the phase adjustment value can
7 be used for transmitting the call and referenced for receiving the call.

1 14. A method for use in a wireless communication network with a plurality of frequency
2 channels for assigning a call to one of the frequency channels, comprising:
3 measuring a transmission quality of the frequency channels individually;
4 evaluating the transmission quality of each frequency channel until a first frequency
5 channel having a suitable transmission quality is identified; and
6 assigning the call to the first frequency channel and assigning a first phase adjustment
7 value to the call

1 15 The method of claim 14 further comprising the step of associating the phase
2 adjustment value with the call so that the phase adjustment value can be used for transmitting the
3 call and referenced for receiving the call.

1 16. The method of claim 14 wherein the evaluating step comprises comparing the
2 transmission quality of the frequency channel to a value until the transmission quality exceeds the
3 value.

1 17. A method for use in a wireless communication network with a plurality of frequency
2 channels divided into a plurality of timeslots for assigning a call to at least one of the timeslots in
3 one of the frequency channels, comprising:
4 measuring a transmission quality of the frequency channels individually during each
5 timeslot;
6 evaluating the transmission quality of each frequency channel during each timeslot until a
7 first frequency channel having a suitable transmission quality is identified; and

8 assigning the call to the first frequency channel and assigning a first phase adjustment
9 value to the call.

1 18. The method of claim 17 further comprising the step of associating the phase
2 adjustment value with the call so that the phase adjustment value can be used for transmitting the
3 call and referenced for receiving the call.

1 19. The method of claim 17 wherein the evaluating step comprises comparing the
2 transmission quality of the frequency channel during each timeslot to a value until the transmission
3 quality exceeds the value.

1 20. A method for use by a mobile unit to receive calls which are transmitted with a phase
2 adjustment value, comprising:
3 receiving a phase adjustment value that identifies, at least in part, a first call received on a
4 frequency channel; and
5 demodulating the first call on the frequency channel utilizing the phase adjustment value.

1 21. The method of claim 20 further comprising the step of filtering out noise

1 22. A method for use by a mobile unit to transmit calls which have been assigned a phase
2 adjustment value, comprising:
3 receiving a phase adjustment value that identifies, at least in part, a first call; and
4 modulating the call utilizing the phase adjustment value.

Systems and Methods for Phase Multiplexing in Assigning Frequency Channels for a Wireless Communication Network

5

Abstract of the Disclosure

The present invention provides for a modulation control device and method that can be implemented economically in existing communication networks or new networks to increase capacity. A modulation control device in accordance with the present invention allows for possibly more than one call to simultaneously utilize the same frequency channel for AMPS
10 systems or the same frequency during the same timeslot for TDMA systems. A modulation control device in accordance with the present invention evaluates the transmission quality of a frequency channel and if acceptable, the modulation control device phase divides the frequency channel. The modulation control device assigns phase adjustment values to a call preferably which remain independent of the information encoding modulation techniques utilized. A call
15 then can be modulated by the assigned phase adjustment value during transmission, and the call may be identified by the assigned phase adjustment value during reception. The present invention further provides a methodology for modulating calls by varying phase to increase capacity in wireless communication networks.

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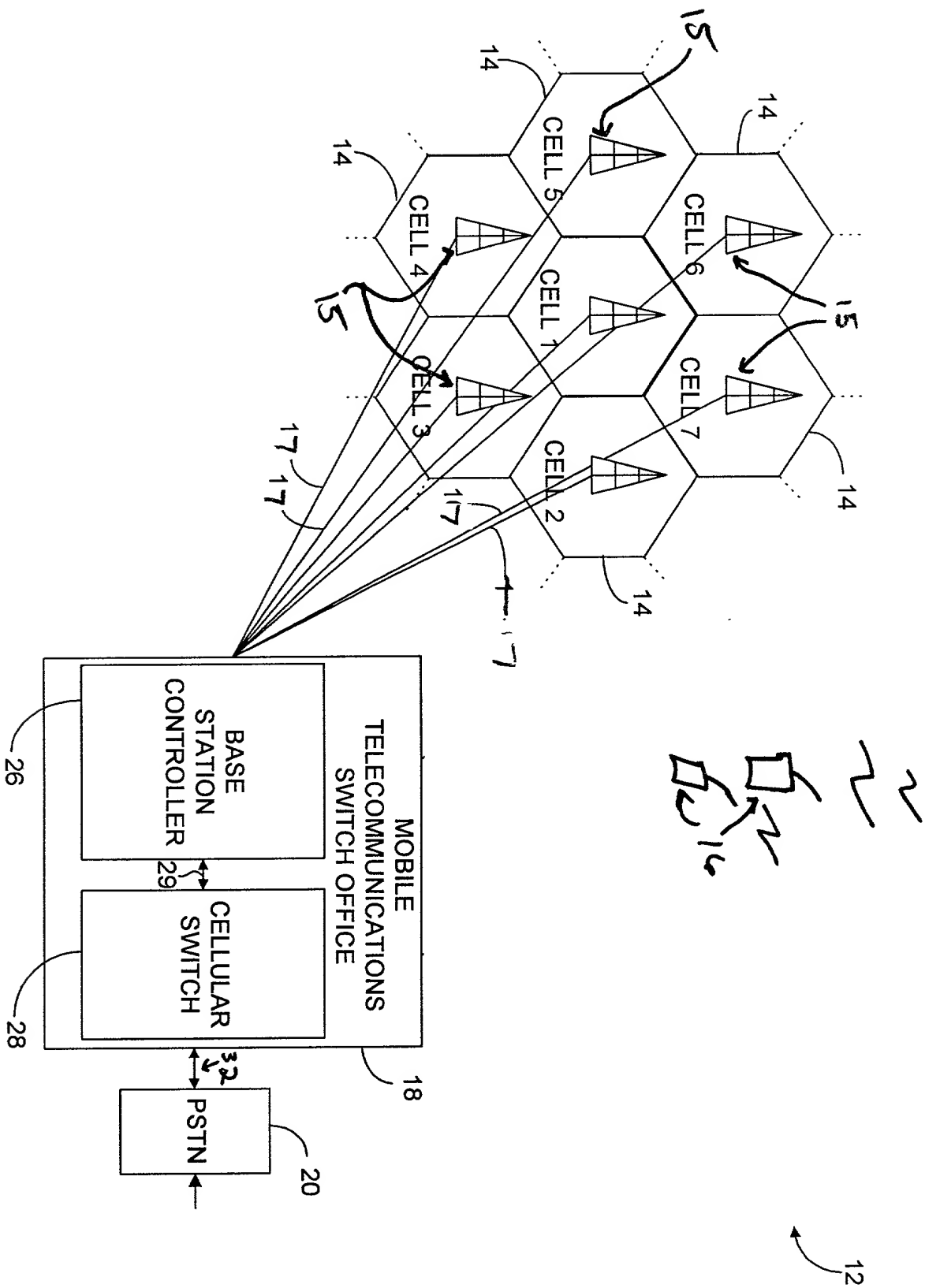


FIG. 1

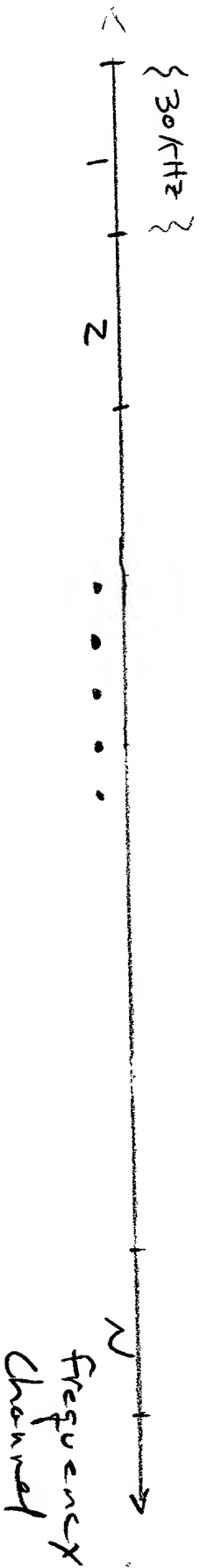
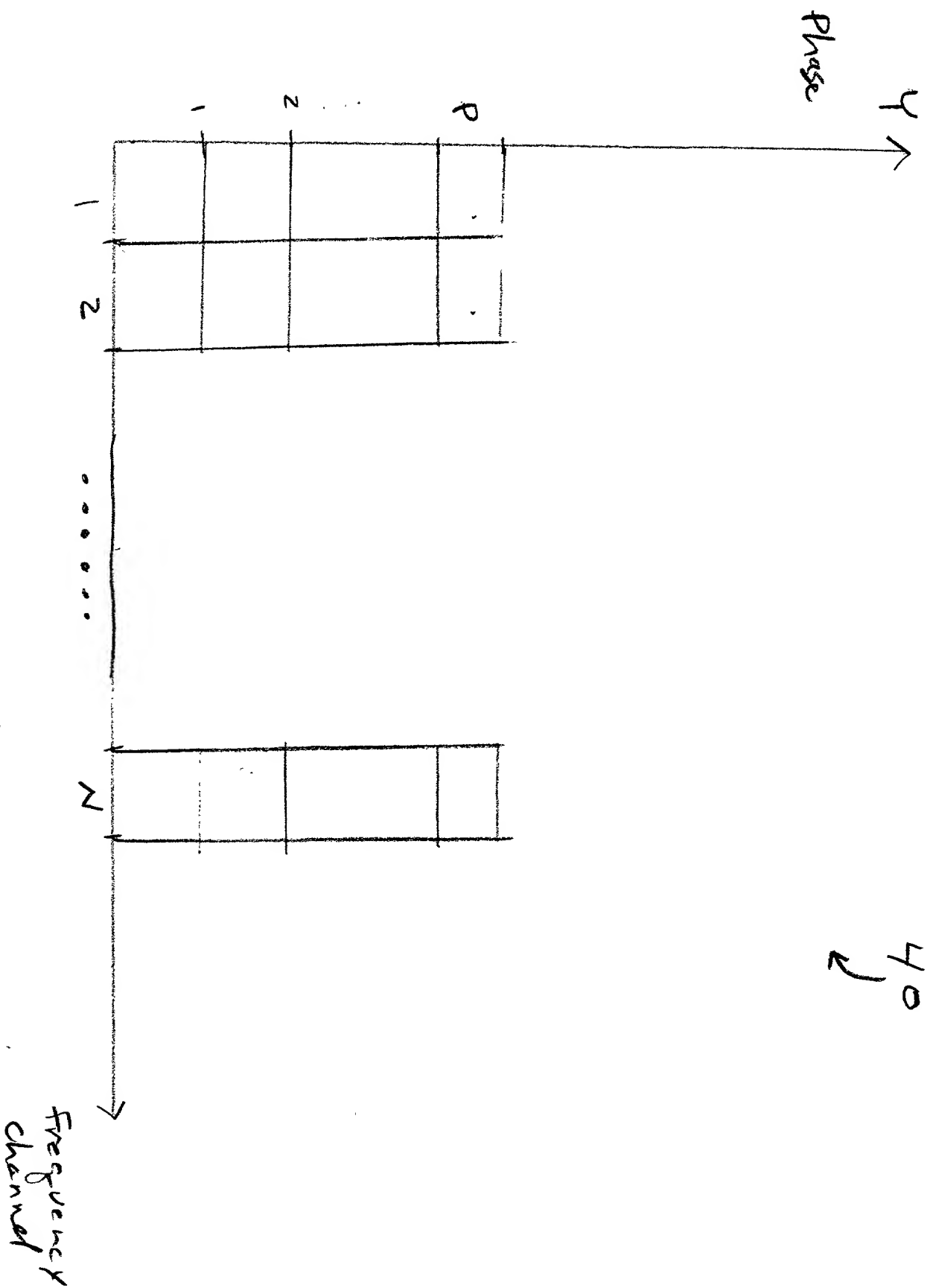


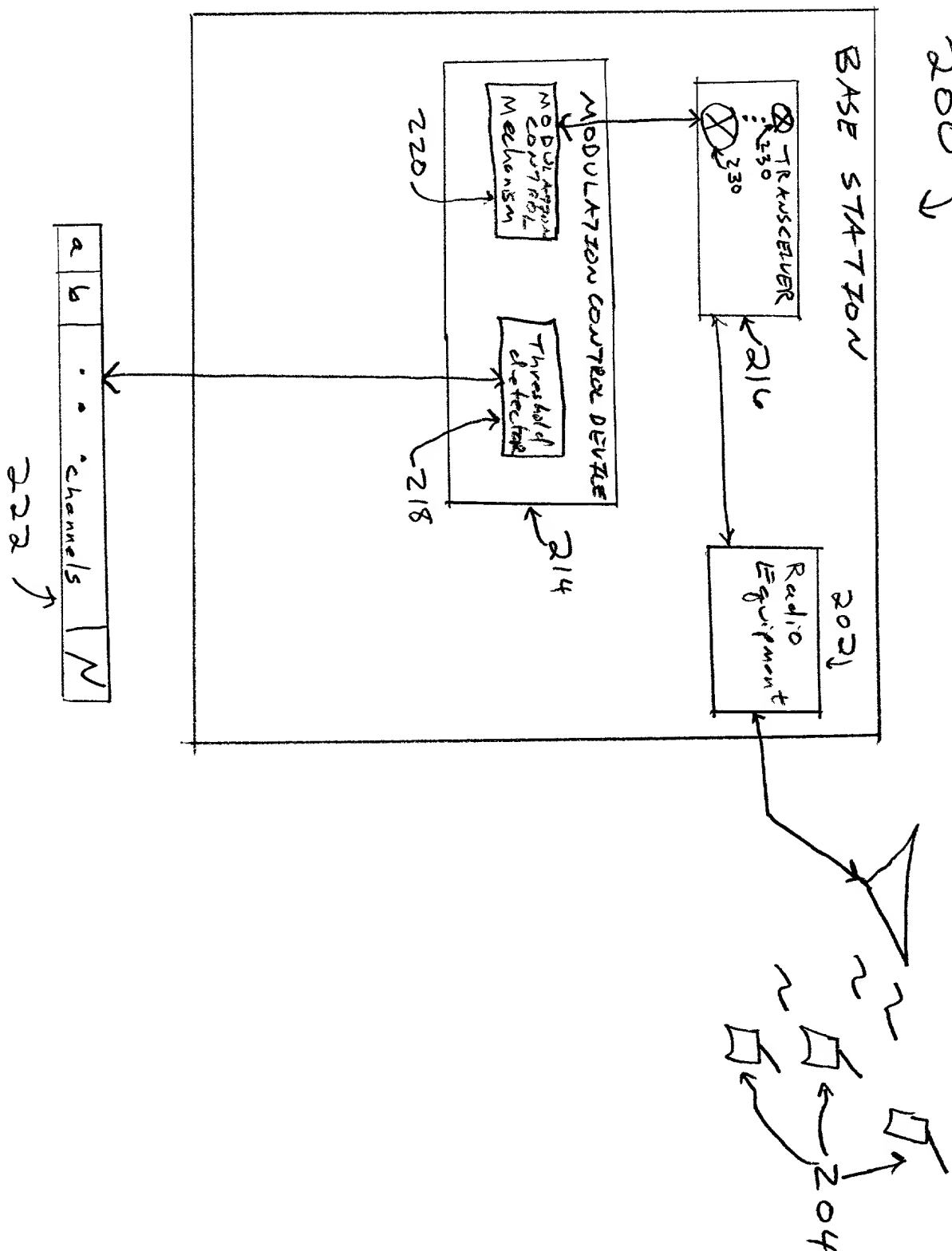
FIG. 2A

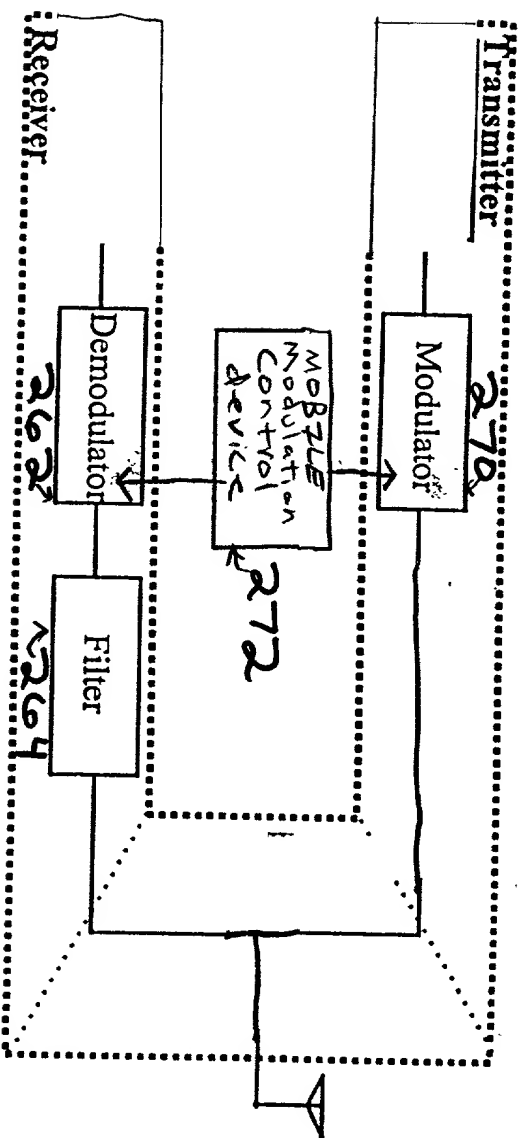


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FIG. 2B

2002





260

Fig. 4

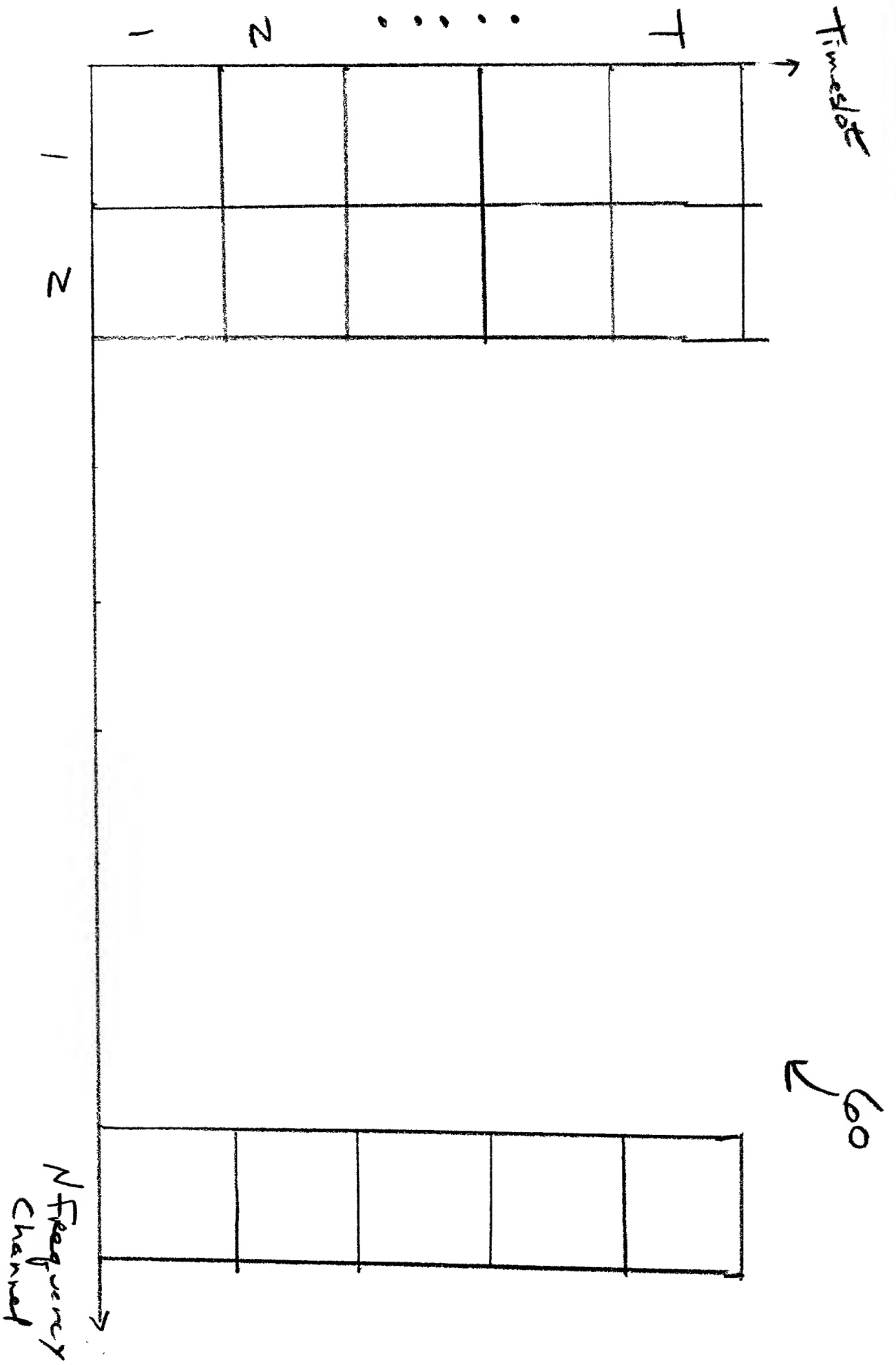


Fig. 5A
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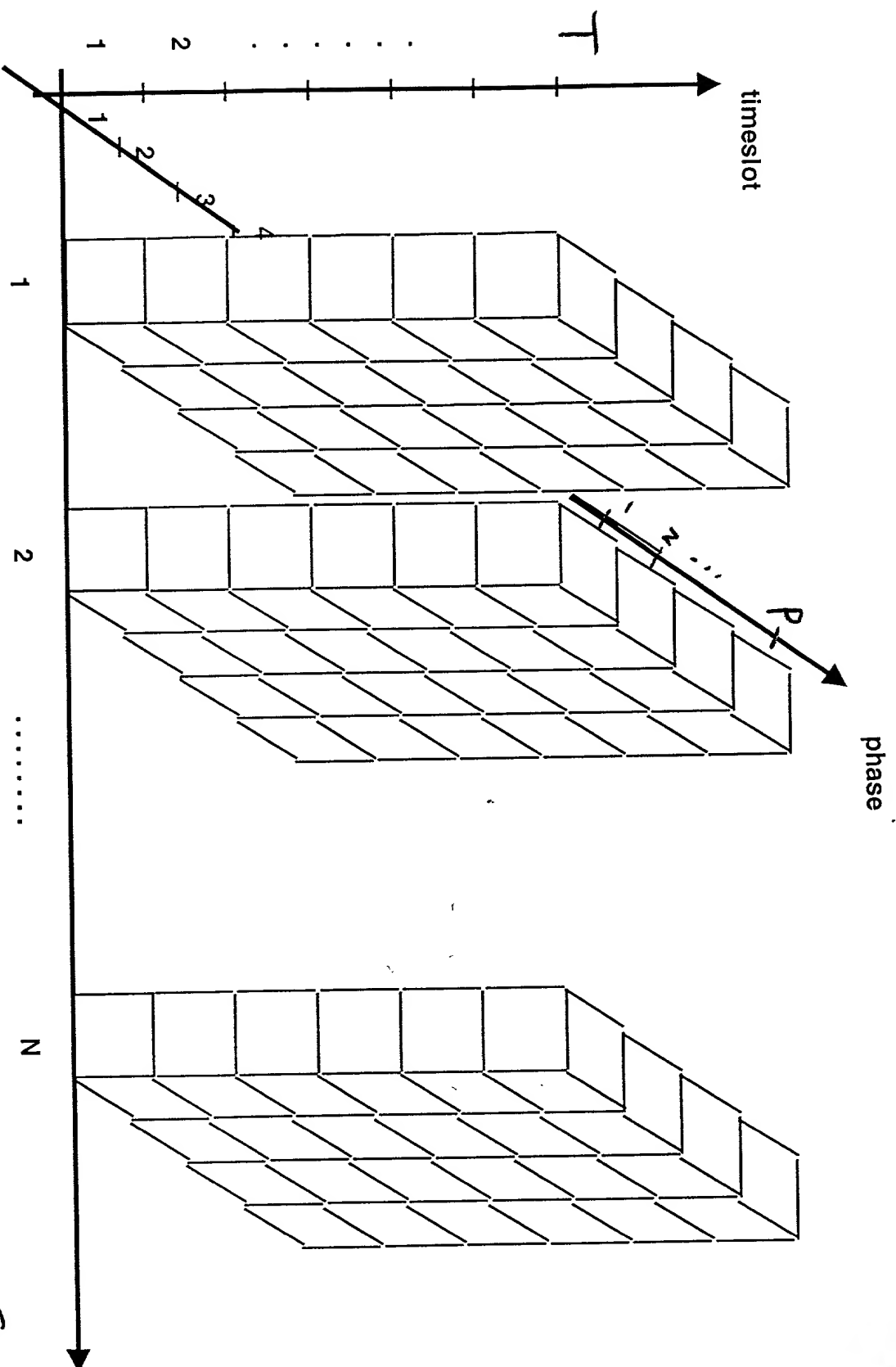
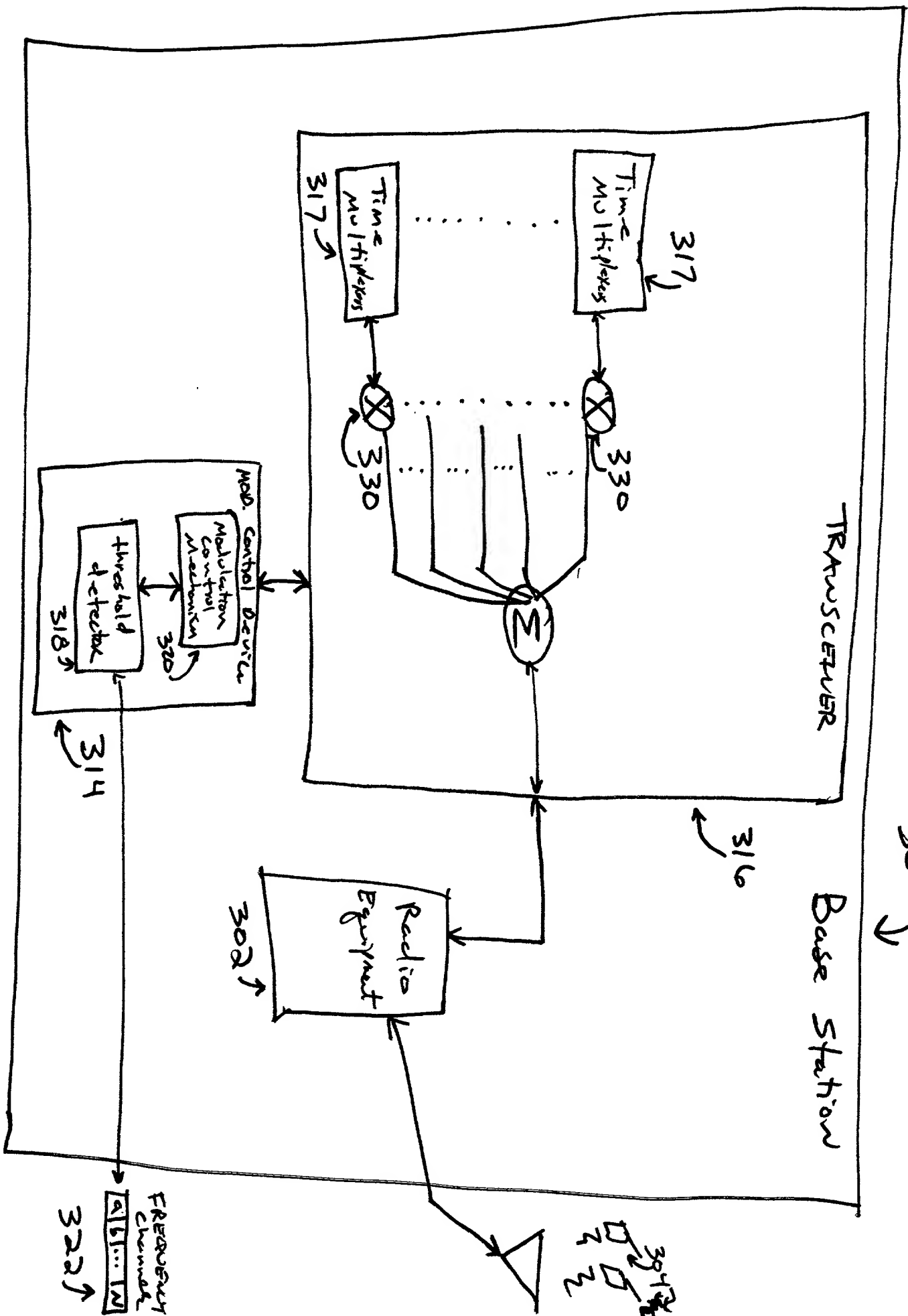


Fig. 5B

FIG. 5B is a 3D diagram showing a grid of blocks in a 3D space defined by 'timeslot' (vertical), 'phase' (horizontal), and 'frequency channel' (depth) axes. The 'timeslot' axis is labeled with 1, 2, ..., T. The 'phase' axis is labeled with 1, 2, ..., P. The 'frequency channel' axis is labeled with 1, 2, ..., N. A line with points 1, 2, 3, 4 is shown in the first block of the first phase and first frequency channel. A line with points 1, 2, ..., N is shown in the first block of the first phase and first frequency channel.

300 → F26.6



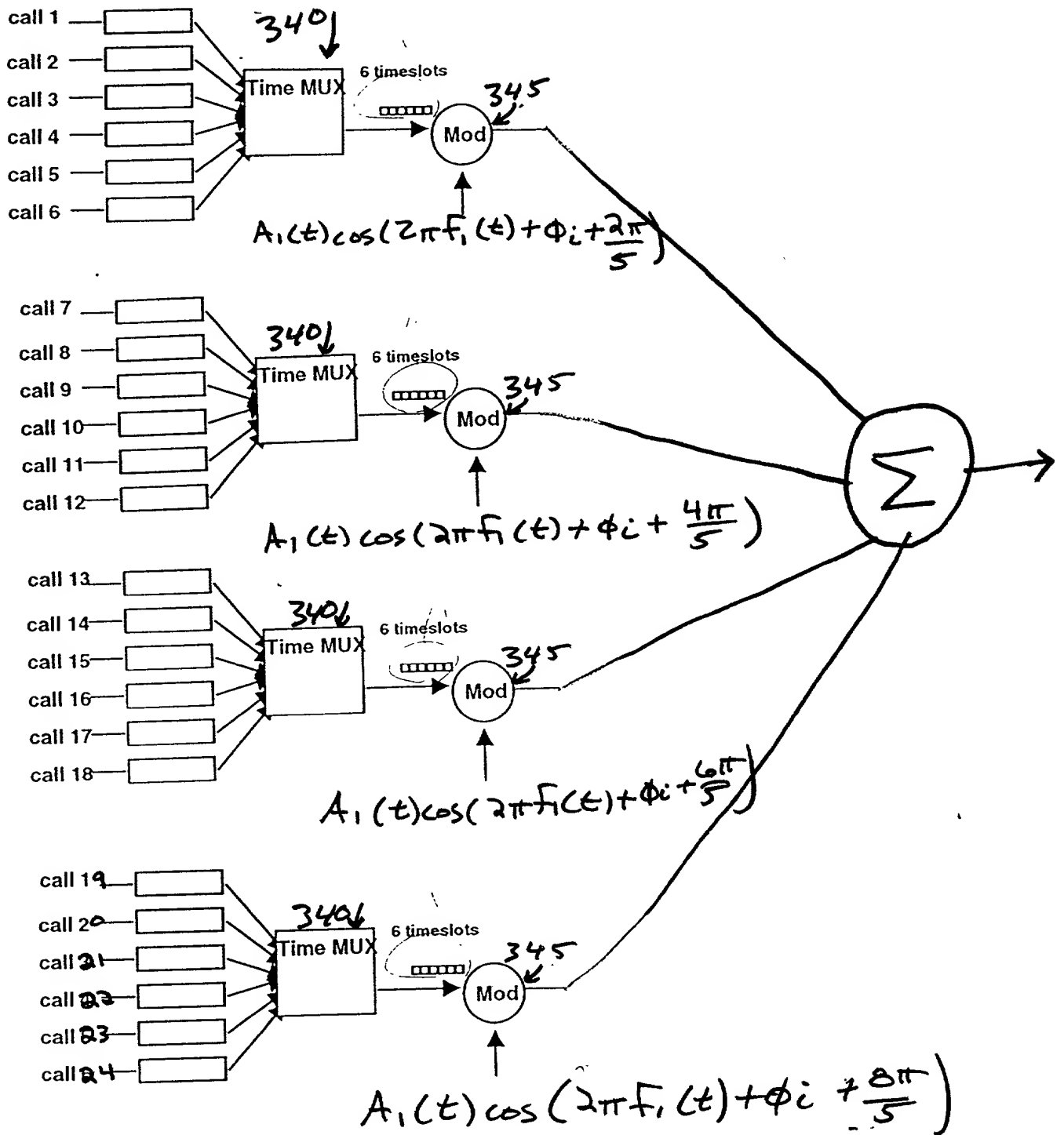
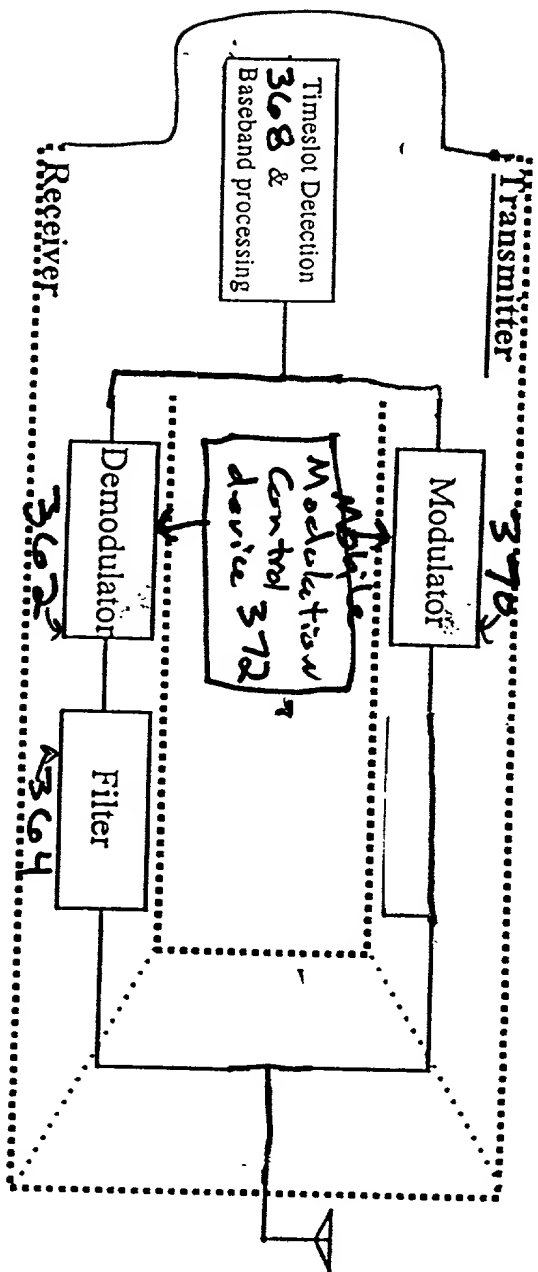


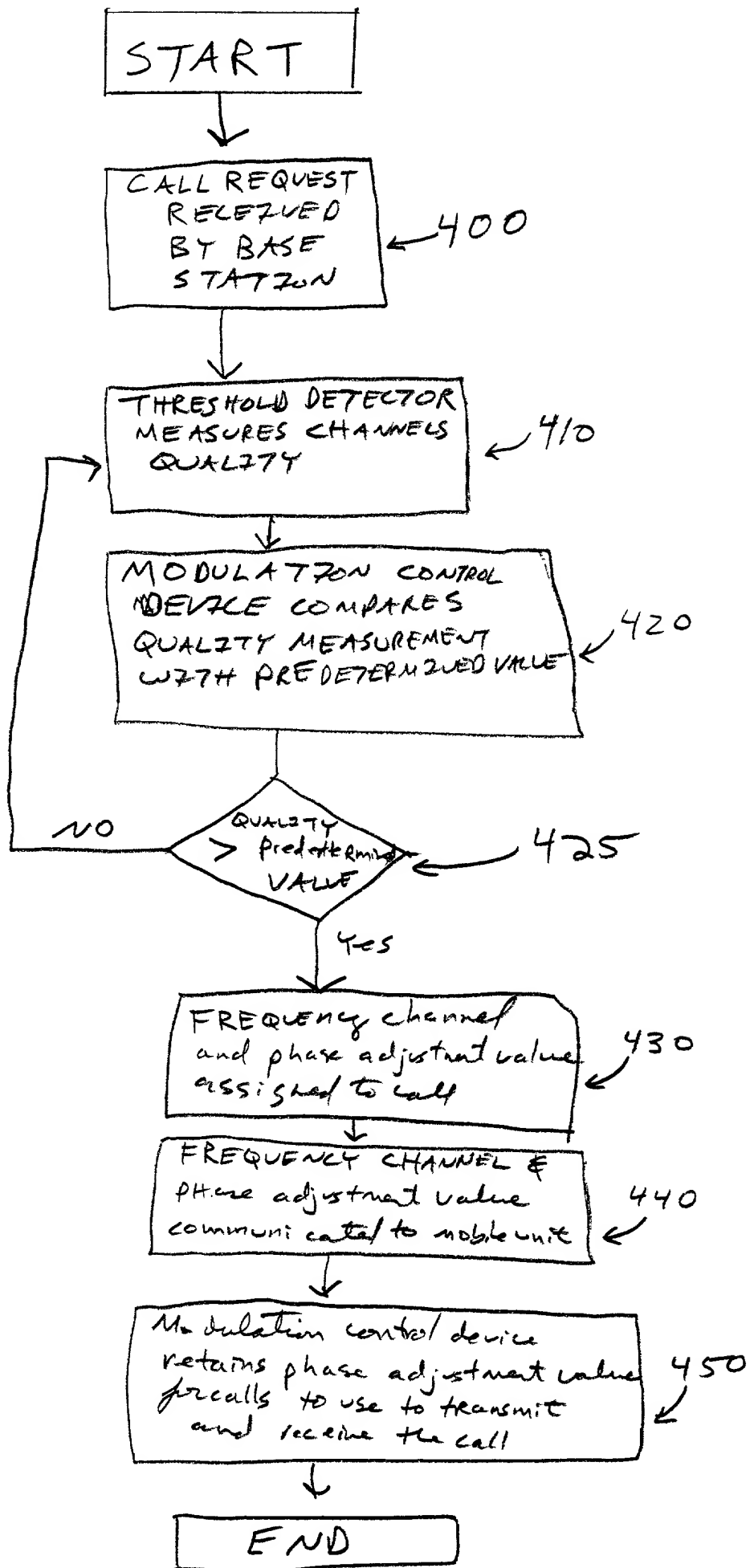
FIG. 6A



360

Fig. 7

FIG. 8



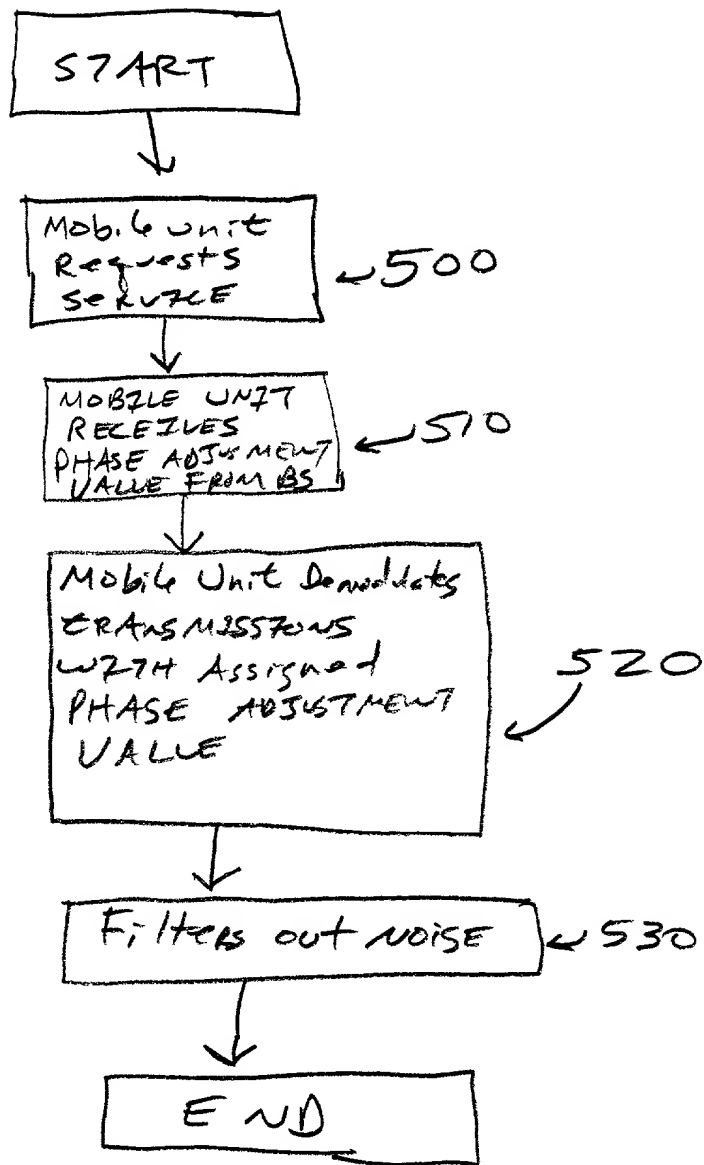


FIG. 9

**IN THE UNITED STATES
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY

As the below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor of the subject matter which claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled **Systems and Methods for Phase Multiplexing in Assigning Frequency Channels for a Wireless Communication Network** the specification of which is attached hereto.

I hereby state that I have reviewed and understand the contents of the above identified specification, including the claims, as amended by an amendment, if any, specifically referred to in this oath or declaration.

I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me which is material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56.

I hereby claim foreign priority benefits under Title 35, United States Code, 119 of any foreign application(s) for patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

None

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, 120 of any United States application(s) listed below and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in the prior United States application in the manner provided by the first paragraph of Title 35, United States Code, 112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose all information known to me to be material to patentability as defined in Title 37, Code of Federal Regulations, 1.56 which became available between the filing date of the prior application and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

None

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States

Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) with full power of substitution and revocation, to prosecute said application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

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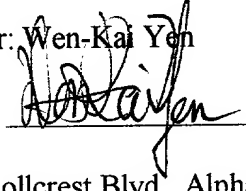
Attorney Docket No.: 9146-49
Lucent Case Name/No.: Yen 3

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(Reg. No. 36304)
(Reg. No. 17765)

I hereby appoint the attorney(s) on ATTACHMENT A as associate attorney(s) in the aforementioned application, with full power solely to prosecute said application, to make alterations and amendments therein, to receive the patent, and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected with the prosecution of said application. No other powers are granted to such associate attorney(s) and such associate attorney(s) are specifically denied any power of substitution or revocation.

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Attorney Docket No.: 9146-49
Lucent Case Name/No.: Yen 3

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